

Latimer, Becky

From: Latimer, Becky
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 9:38 AM
To:
Cc:
Subject: 2019-290-WS

Dear Patrick and Grace Lambert,

Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at www.psc.sc.gov.

- Docket No. 2019-290-WS - Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2019-290-WS - Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/117247>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Becky Latimer

Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Dr., Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210



Phone: 803-896-5100
Fax: 803-896-5199
www.psc.sc.gov

Save as PDF file and Email form
to: contact@psc.sc.gov

Letter of Protest
Docket No. 2019-290-WS

* Required Fields

Date: * 2/20/20

Protestant Information:

Name * Lambert, Patrick and Grace

Mailing Address

City, State Zip * Irmo SC

Phone *

E-mail

1. What is your connection or interest in this case? * For example, are you a customer of the Company that is the subject of this pending proceeding? (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

We are rate payers and have Blue Granite services.

2. Please give a concise statement of your protest. * (This section must be completed. Attach additional information if necessary.)

We OPPOSE Blue Granite's request for a rate increase of \$11.7 million that if allowed could result in 56% increases in sewer rates and increases for water. We oppose it because the company wants to charge rate payers for expenses like tens of thousands in marketing, \$500,000 in moving expenses and other expenses deemed non-allowable by regulators such as chamber of commerce membership dues, flower arrangements, donations, scholarships, and \$20,000+ sponsorships. Also, the company received a 2018 rate increase and consistently violated DHEC regulations resulting in large fines. These examples show Blue Granite has a history of poor management practices. The Department of Consumer Affairs has agreed some of the expenses are not necessary and do not provide a benefit to customers.

This is an example of why consumers should be allowed choice in service providers as we are for cell phones, etc. If this company cannot provide services at a cost in line with other providers and abide by the regulations/laws, they should not be allowed to operate and we should have a choice to move to Richland County sewer.

3. Do you wish to make an appearance at a hearing in this proceeding, if scheduled, and offer sworn testimony? *

No

Signature Required:

Grace Lambert